A CONVERSATION WITH BARRY GREENE, R’72
WHO YOU LOOKIN' AT? The answer on campus this summer was these goats. About 80 grown-ups and kids ate their way through invasive plants as part of the development of an eco-corridor along Little Westham Creek. UR's use of goats caught the attention of more than 100 media outlets coast to coast, from the Miami Herald in Florida to the Bellingham Herald in Washington state.

Photograph by Jamie Betts
LIKE, LIKE, AND LIKE Yes, we post photos at @urichmond, but we love the photos you post, too. Here’s a sample of recent ones from Spiders on campus and around the world. Help us spot your posts with the hashtags #SpiderSpotting and #SpiderPride.
Notes on the care and feeding of memory

On a November morning 100 years ago in New York City, a YMCA volunteer named Moina left her desk briefly to visit novelty shops in the neighborhood. She was looking for an artificial version of a particular flower, one mentioned in a poem she’d read a few hours earlier in *Ladies’ Home Journal*. She eventually spotted it at a department store on East Ninth Street between Broadway and Fourth Avenue. She bought a large one for the vase on her desk and two dozen more to give to the men passing through the YMCA. The last of them she pinned on the lapel of a young man on his way to France.

The flowers were red silk four-petaled poppies, and they quickly caught on as a symbol of remembrance for the soldiers who died on the battlefields of Europe in World War I. For the rest of her life, Moina Michael pinned one on herself every Nov. 11, Remembrance Day in Britain and Veterans Day in this country. Inspired by her example, millions of others have also done so ever since, an elegant gesture of acknowledgement and gratitude.

Questions about what and how we remember were on our minds as we worked on this issue of the magazine. As a result, two very consequential anniversaries for Richmond feature in these pages. The first is the 125th anniversary of an incident at a baseball game that conferred a fittingly unique identity — the Spiders — on a university that has become unlike any other in the nation. We saw this anniversary coming years ago and have had it circled on our calendars.

The other anniversary came onto our radar much more recently. We have a project archivist in Boatwright Library to thank for letting us know about it. This semester marks 50 years since a young man named Barry Greene moved into Freeman Hall to begin his first semester at Richmond. What made this commonplace occurrence remarkable is that in doing so, he became the university’s first black residential student. He talks with President Crutcher about his college experience in the story that begins on Page 18.

The archivist who noted this anniversary, Irina Rogova, has spent several years helping students dig through the university’s records as part of the student-initiated Race and Racism Project. Its impetus was a recognition by some students of the absence of the experiences of people of color in the university’s history. They are working to remedy that by pulling out old yearbooks, *Collegian* issues, and such and looking for stories not widely known. One student presenting her research in the Brown-Alley Room in July explained that, as they read, they ask themselves, “What are we not seeing? What has been excluded?” Put another way, they are reading to reconstruct what our communal lapses in memory have lost and left out.

They do so with the hope of creating a richer understanding of and sense of belonging in this campus community. Theirs is sensitive work that makes blindnesses of the past uncomfortably apparent to us in the present. Even more uncomfortably, it urges us to recognize the inescapable conclusion we surely have blindnesses of our own awaiting the disbelief of future generations. Not seeing these ourselves, we’re incapable of addressing them, but we can certainly do something about the ones laying out before our eyes in plain sight.

Matthew Dewald, Editor
18 A Conversation With Barry Greene
Fifty years ago this fall, Barry Greene, R’72, moved into Freeman Hall, becoming the university’s first black residential student.

24 Handling With Care
A new Well-Being Center has Richmond at the forefront of a well-being movement in higher education.

28 A Matter of Priorities
Photographer Jensen Sutta, ’99, turns down well-paying assignments to support nonprofit work in Haiti.

36 Fly, Eagle, Fly
Al Green said it best:  
Let’s stay together  
We used to write letters to keep in touch.  
These days, we post links to share our thoughts and tap digital hearts to show our love.  
We follow each other on social media.  
I like you, and you like me, whatever kind of “like” that means for us.  
So it is with the University of Richmond.  
With the creation of Spider Pride and a burst of social media activity over the past few years, the university has been working hard to stay in touch with you, share some joy and pride, and make it easy for you to keep up with what your fellow Spiders are doing. And Spiders are responding.  
Since its launch in 2017, Spider Pride has become a must-visit destination. If there’s something for Spiders to brag about, you’ll find it there.  
11,634 followers  
34% since summer 2017  
@urichmond Instagram’s most-loved shots  
With a campus like ours, it’s practically cheating.  

4. “UR named one of Kiplinger’s top 20 best values for 2018” (Dec. 29, 2017)  
5. “Richmond shines in Fiske Guide” (July 13, 2017)  

Spot a trend? But it’s not all about the rankings. Spider Pride’s top five stories about topics other than rankings:  
1. “Spiders exceed the national average for studying abroad” (July 24, 2017)  
2. “Applications reach an all-time high” (March 5, 2018)  
3. “President gives bold challenge to Class of 2021” (Aug. 29, 2017)  
4. “U.S. News highlights student’s innovative drive to become a Spider” (Nov. 10, 2017)  
5. “Richmond’s record-setting quarterback stuns on the national stage” (Jan. 29, 2018)
An unfiltered view

One of the most important reasons I mentor is that it helps me better understand our students’ perspectives and needs.

Though the students I’ve mentored over the course of my career number in the hundreds, I remember all of their faces. Their candid observations, heartfelt disclosures, and passionate indignations — these I recall with even greater clarity.

I have mentored students for more than 20 years, inspired by a desire to repay those who guided my path. My wife, Dr. Betty Neal Crutcher, and I launched our first formal program together in 1999 while I was on the faculty at Miami University. We partnered with the offices of admission and student affairs to identify students and began meeting with them regularly. I met with a cohort of male students and Betty with a similar one of women. Her background in cross-cultural mentoring got her off to a confident start; in the beginning, I was just trying to keep up.

The rules of our groups have always been straightforward: attend each meeting, do the homework, respect others, participate actively, and maintain confidentiality as a reflection of trust. In other words, what happens in mentoring, stays in mentoring.

This simple playbook has worked well for us over place and time. From others, there are always questions: Is my group composed of minority students only? Why do we separate into clusters of men and women? Do I think students will really tell me how they feel and how they are doing academically?

I have repeated the answers often: Each mentoring group includes students from many backgrounds who bring diverse knowledge and understanding to our conversations. We separate by gender because students tell us that they prefer it, and we meet together as one large unit regularly. I liken it to the university’s coordinate college system, which has evolved to ensure that gender is not a barrier to association.

And students will always tell me how they feel, even about difficult subjects. This past year, one student I was mentoring shared a paper he wrote called “Reducing Feelings of Marginalization for Black Students.” In it, he openly cited ways he believed Richmond was failing its black students. He offered a number of ideas, from creating a mandatory course to considering a chief diversity officer and providing cultural competency training for faculty. I admired not only his candor, but his proposed solutions — the productive antidote to contrarians everywhere.

With his and the other students’ permission, I shared his paper and sentiments from our group’s many conversations on race and class with members of the new President’s Advisory Committee on Making Excellence Inclusive. Similarly candid conversations — about consent, privilege, resilience, and school/life balance, among other topics — have encouraged change, informed policies, and underpinned the university’s actions during my tenure as president. Simply put, my interactions with those I mentor help me better understand our students’ needs.

The young have long done this for the generations before them. Cultural anthropologist Margaret Mead put it well when she wrote, “The young, free to act on their initiative, can lead their elders in the direction of the unknown. (They) must ask the questions that we would never think to ask, but enough trust must be re-established so that the elders will be permitted to work with them on the answers.” Put another way, we help them become who they are, and they likewise do the same for us and this institution we share.

I have spent the better part of my life working with students on the answers that matter to us all. I hope that, through our exchanges, they develop a set of resources to help them be resilient throughout their lives. To excel as students, and to be comfortable engaging civilly and respectfully in difficult conversations about class, race, gender, and other complicated social issues. To know how and why to disagree agreeably and to defend a position with facts, reason, and equanimity. To understand what it means to work effectively to advance knowledge, solve complicated problems, and enjoy one another as travelers together in this world.
125 years & counting

In 1894 (or maybe ’93), a heckling fan in search of a metaphor supposedly yelled something about spiders at some Richmond College baseball players. Reporters repeated the nickname, and it stuck.

We don’t know exactly what happened, but we’re grateful that something did because it laid the groundwork for our unique identity as Richmond Spiders. It’s a fitting choice for a university like no other.

Now, 125 years later, Richmond Spiders now number in the tens of thousands, and they can be found all around the world, making a difference.

Throughout the 2018–19 academic year, the university will celebrate this anniversary and Spiders everywhere. The kickoff will come at Homecoming Nov. 2–4. Other highlights will be timed with National Spider Day (March 14) and Reunion Weekend (May 31–June 2), but the celebration will be ongoing throughout the year with stories in the magazine, in Spider Pride, and on social media, about what it means to be a Spider.

So let’s turn back to a Spider story, the one with the heckling fan. We don’t know whether that’s actually how it happened. Over the years, a generally consistent origin story has emerged: It happened in the 1890s at a baseball game when someone used the term to describe one or more of the players. The details, however, have often conflicted.

One of the most interesting discrepancies concerns whether the person who said it was even heckling. The editors of the 1897 yearbook call it an “epithet” directed at the lanky players.

In a 1942 account, then-student Fletcher Stiers, R’48, speculated an “epithet” directed at the lanky players.

Regardless, it stuck and is now a point of pride as a fittingly singular identity for a university that is unique in higher education.
Tucked in all of the good news about this year’s incoming class — record applications, academic credentials even higher than last year, continued strong geographic and demographic diversity — was this modest data point about the Class of 2022: Fifteen percent are first-generation students.

Twenty-five years ago, you could count the percentage of first-gen students at Richmond on your fingers, some years on one hand. The change is a sign of the continued success of deliberate programs and policies, among them a need-blind admissions process, a commitment to meet the full need of admitted students, and personal stories signal that the university is committed at the highest levels to responding to the needs of first-generation students.

A key component of Spider Firsts is the way it connects first-gen students to each other, networking that helps lessen isolation and feelings of being out of place on campus.

Miles also regularly invites faculty and staff who had the same experience to Spider Firsts events. Among the regular attendees are the dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and the university’s president, whose presence and personal stories signal that the university is committed at the highest levels to responding to the needs of first-generation students.

In her interview with Education Dive, Miles shared the direct message she has for first-gen students: “It’s really hard to get in here,” she said, “so if you’re here, you definitely belong here.”
Misery loves media

Partisan news outlets get predictably grumpy when the nation’s elections don’t go their side’s way. New research by a Jepson School of Leadership Studies professor suggests that they might instead look at political misfortune as a business opportunity.

Political scientist Allison Archer combed through the circulation figures of hundreds of local, daily partisan American newspapers from 1932 to 2004, indexed these against the electoral fortunes of their political bedfellows, and looked for patterns. She didn’t know what to expect.

“What’s interesting is both the literature and basic intuition support a variety of [answers] to my research question,” Archer said. Enthusiasm from wins could cause people to consume more news, but it’s also possible that the anxiety of a loss could do the same. Or there might be no effect; people are either political junkies or not.

The data answered the question resoundingly. Not only did partisan newspapers do better when their presidential candidates lost, but their circulation changes correlated with the size of electoral losses. For example, Republican-aligned newspapers experienced their three biggest boosts with the elections of 1932, 1940, and 1964, all of which their candidates lost by 10 or more points. Likewise, two of the biggest boosts for Democratic-aligned newspapers coincided with Ronald Reagan’s landslides in 1980 and 1984.

“Taking a step back, this finding suggests citizens whose party is out of power become more interested in monitoring politics than those whose party is in power,” she said. “In many ways, that’s a good thing because it means people aren’t giving up on politics when their party loses an election. Instead, they are taking steps to ensure their interests are still being represented.”

She also suggests that the same dynamic might be at play for partisan cable news. Fox News soared during Barack Obama’s presidency; MSNBC is thriving under Donald Trump. Discontent, it seems, has its value.
What keeps you up at night? What keeps me up at night would probably be a data breach — waking up the next morning and X number of sensitive data have been exploited. Now you have to do reporting to all the constituents, and there’s the press and the reputational hit that the university would take.

At the end of that, if it was something that could have been avoided — because so many of these mega-breaches that occur, it’s usually something that was totally preventable — it’s that kind of thing that just haunts you.

Will things get better as we develop better tools? Look for more cybersecurity threats coming in the future, unfortunately. In this digital age, the cyberattacks are only going to increase. They’re not going to go away. They’re not going to give up. They’re not going to die off. It’s a profitable industry, so if anything, the attackers are only going to increase their attacks and improve their tactics. Again, we all have to do our part.

What has been your experience as a woman of color working in information technology? You know, it’s interesting. I’m working on my doctorate, and for a class project, I did a presentation about women and minorities in IT in general, how there are so few.

IT tends to be a field that is dominated by men — particularly white males — and for whatever reason, people who are interested in the field, whether they’re women or minorities, it tends to be more difficult for them to break into the field. Some of it goes back to, “You need X number of years of experience,” but how do you get that experience if no one ever gives you an opportunity?

How did you make the transition into cybersecurity? I got into cybersecurity when I was working for the Department of Defense. It wasn’t something I was looking for. Literally, it was a case where there was a class — the Department of Defense was rolling out cybersecurity during that period — and I was out of the office that day, so I got stuck with it. I came back, and they said, “Shana, you’re going to take this [cybersecurity boot camp and get this certification].”

At first, I was resistant, just because of how it came about. But after I took the class and started looking into it, I was already doing some of the things it was teaching, like password security, securing your systems, loading antivirus software. It just wasn’t a discipline at that point. After I passed my first certification, I thought, “OK, I can do this. I kind of like it.”

What do you enjoy the most about working at UR? The food is good. You really don’t have to leave campus to find something decent to eat. That’s probably not good for the waistline.

But on a serious note, from what I’ve seen, everyone here is willing to help. They all want to do what’s best for the University.
At a boarding school in Connecticut, just after the 9/11 attacks, Maj. Max Sirkin, ‘08, made himself a promise: He would serve his country. He had no idea how he would fulfill it. A few years later and two years into the ROTC program at UR, he had the beginning of the answer when Justin Disher, ‘05, of the Spider Battalion pulled him aside.

“The Army has enough people to pull triggers,” his battalion-mate said. “If you are serious about this, pursue science and use that to serve the Army.”

He did. Today Sirkin is a military doctor at Fort Bragg, saving lives one by one on operating tables. But his vision has always been bigger. Off duty, he sits at his kitchen table sketching ideas for inventions that could save thousands of lives. One of them already is: the SHRAIL.

“Basically, it is a 15-pound aluminum attachment that, when attached, turns a litter [military jargon for a stretcher] into an operating table,” Sirkin said. “It’s designed to be put together in low light by two people who have never touched it before.”

The SHRAIL — or the Sirkin-Hiles Rail System, named for himself and co-inventor Col. Jason Hiles — can dramatically shorten the time it takes to receive life-saving care. When a soldier is injured in the field, it can typically take hours or even days to reach the closest hospital when transporting someone via litter, Sirkin said. A second option, if available, is a portable operating table, which allows field surgeons to operate in remote locations. However, these are antiquated and heavy, Sirkin said, making them difficult to transport in combat zones.

“When you’re moving around from point A to point B, you can’t bring something that big and that weighs so much,” he said. “It takes up space; it costs a lot of money. If you’re in the middle of nowhere, you need to be able to do anything.”

Sirkin’s SHRAIL converts any standard NATO litter or stretcher into a highly functional operating table or intensive care unit bed by providing the means to add the side rails commonly found in operating rooms. Surgical tools then can be easily attached to the litter, making more advanced, life-saving procedures possible in combat zones and during transport — greatly modernizing the Army’s current process. “Far-forward surgery” is the Army’s term for it.

Sirkin and Hiles’ idea went from the kitchen table to an Army team of engineers, patent officers, and attorneys at Fort Detrick in Maryland. They built and tested prototypes, filed patents, and reviewed agreements. Through their work, the SHRAIL concept was refined and only got better.

“When the Army saw I had something of value, it jumped in and gave me the best team I have ever worked with,” Sirkin said. After successful testing, the Army signed an agreement with Atlanta-based Morzine Medical to begin manufacturing the SHRAIL. It already has been deployed overseas and, Sirkin said, has demonstrated its utility and saved lives.

Deflecting credit, Sirkin frequently stresses his collaboration with Hiles, the SHRAIL’s co-inventor.

“I always tell people he’s like my Obi-Wan Kenobi,” Sirkin said. “He’s one of the best surgical mentors. I am lucky to have a colleague, boss, and mentor like him.”

Sirkin said several more of his ideas for inventions are moving forward, though he can’t disclose information about them yet. They are all part of keeping that promise he made to himself as a boy in boarding school.
“Runners aren’t born, and neither are leaders. They’re made.”

SANDRA PEART, a runner and the dean of the Jepson School of Leadership Studies, quoted in an article in the Memphis Commercial Appeal about a national nonprofit called Girls on the Run. The organization promotes health, leadership development, and self-esteem among girls.

Every summer, biology professor Shannon Jones gives a group of incoming students a head start in the sciences. In return this year, some of them gave her a puppy.

The University of Richmond Integrated Science Experience puts 24 incoming students in labs in Gottwald Science Center weeks before beginning their first class. URISE participants develop a sense of community, establish mentoring relationships with faculty, and receive stipends to ensure the experience is accessible.

Ask Jones why the program does any of these things, and she’ll give you the same answer for all of them: to remove barriers.

URISE places particular emphasis on recruiting students from low-income backgrounds, students of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, and first-generation college students—all groups that are underrepresented in science and mathematics.

“Being inclusive is intentional. You can’t just go into a class and expect everyone to feel safe and welcome,” Jones said. “You have to put forth effort to make them feel that way.”

Her URISE and other students from last year got a chance to show Jones just how much she means to them when they saw their animal-loving professor grieve the loss of her dog Myles. Outwardly, the students offered condolences. Among themselves, they quietly collected money to get Jones a new puppy. Their secret project even had a code name: Project Hush Puppy.

“I was shocked that they wanted to do something,” Jones said. “Not only have they found community among themselves, but I’m a part of it.”

And so for the summer, a galumphing charmer called Louie trailed Jones around the biology wing of the Gottwald Center for the Sciences.

“Louie is the embodiment of the kind of support we have here,” she said. “I can’t really even put into words how special it is.”

Project hush puppy

Location, location, location

Progenitor cells, it turns out, have the same decision to make as a recent Richmond grad arriving in a new city: Where to live?

Biology professor Isaac Skromne and two undergraduate researchers are using the transparent embryos of zebralings to explore how developing cells answer the question.

Their work aims to produce the first comprehensive roadmap of the signaling networks coordinating how a cell decides to become either part of the spinal cord or the lower part of the brainstem.

“We are studying how cells decide and inform their neighbors where in the nervous system they are going to establish residence,” Skromne said.

The answers they find could have implications in diagnosing and treating congenital neurological diseases, or spinal cord injury or degeneration. The research is being supported by a $400,000 National Science Foundation grant.

Tariffs, schmeriffs?

The Robins School of Business’s quarterly CEO Economic Outlook survey—conducted jointly with the Virginia Council of CEOs—had a new question in its second quarter survey: What about the tariffs recently imposed?

Only three percent of responding CEOs expected a large positive or somewhat positive impact. Forty-one percent expected no impact. Slightly less than 50 percent expected a somewhat negative impact, and about six percent foresaw a large negative impact.

CEOs were more upbeat about sales, with nearly three in four expecting increases over the next six months, up four points from first-quarter results. Expectations for capital spending dipped slightly, and employment forecasts remained virtually unchanged.

“The survey shows that CEOs are generally positive on the economy,” said Randy Raggio, associate dean at the Robins School and administrator of the survey. “The recent declines we have seen in the index reflect a shift from high growth to more stable growth. However, there is reason for concern related to tariffs.”
Excellence in faculty

Spider Talks, President Crutcher’s interview series with faculty, continues this fall. This semester’s videos include Russia and international studies expert Yvonne Howell on how language can amplify our world and anthropologist Jennifer Nourse discussing her research in Indonesia.

The videos are posted monthly during the fall and spring semesters at president.richmond.edu/spidertalks and promoted via Spider Pride newsletters. Previous interviews in the series are also available on the site.

... and in facilities

The newly constructed Queally Center for Admission and Career Services received a silver award in the education category of the 2018 Brick in Architecture Awards, which recognize “the country's most visionary projects incorporating fired-clay brick.”

The 56,000-square-foot Queally Center was built to LEED silver or gold standards; a final rating is pending. Major gifts from nearly 50 donors supported its construction, including a significant lead gift by 1986 graduates Paul and Anne-Marie Queally.

In August, the university announced that the 2016 renovation of Richmond Hall achieved LEED gold certification.

... and in your hands.

For the fourth time in four years, University of Richmond Magazine received a national award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), a leading higher education organization.

The magazine was one of four honored for general excellence among university magazines with circulations between 30,000 and 74,999, the mid-range category. The other honorees were Harvard, Smith, and Oberlin.

CASE judges used “excellent storytelling,” “smart editing,” “great photography,” and “beautifully illustrated” to describe the publication, calling it a “bold magazine.”

Mike Kitimet, ’19, beat the odds when he enrolled at Richmond. Now he’s working to change them.

Kitimet came to UR from Kiserian, Kenya, a town about 10 miles west of Nairobi National Park. Although tourists stream in and out of the region, Kiserian’s educational system struggles with inadequate resources, including lack of a suitable library.

Inspired by his time studying in Boatwright Memorial Library, Kitimet raised funds to build a library that is the first of its kind in Kiserian. The original plan called for it to be housed in a school, but once word of his project began spreading, plans changed.

“People from all walks of life were calling and emailing me to express their interest in donating books for the project,” he said. “Following the project,” he said. “Following the project,” he said. “Following the project,” he said. “Following the project,” he said.

The effort is supported by a $10,000 grant from the non-profit Projects for Peace, which funds grassroots efforts by undergraduates to address the root causes of conflict.

“I was able to maneuver the system, but many of the kids back home don’t have those same opportunities,” he told a reporter for the Richmond Times-Dispatch. “Hopefully, this facility will help their academic empowerment.”
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY: In July, 11 graduate students in an online course in the School of Professional and Continuing Studies converged on Ludwigsburg University in Germany to gain a global perspective on issues in educational leadership.

Wednesday, July 25

After breakfast, we arrived in Stuttgart, Germany, to meet students from places all over the globe — Egypt, South Korea, Germany, Yemen, Ecuador, Pakistan, and the United States. We came together to study and discuss German nonprofit organizations, the German school system, immigration, and principles of integration.

After exchanging stories of how we got to Stuttgart, we were off to the nearby charming town of Esslingen for an evening of amazing sights. Hiking up cobblestone streets, we had views of the old town and vineyards for miles.

Thursday, July 26

After breakfast, we hopped on the train to Ludwigsburg University of Education in Favoritepark, Germany, where we met Pierre Tulowitzki, a junior professor and program director. Professor Tulowitzki led our group to Gottlieb Daimler, a Realschule in Ludwigsburg. Eighty percent of the students in this secondary school are first- or second-generation immigrants.

The principal explained that German education is “holistic.” The policy is to immerse migrants into German culture and teach them differently than domestic German students. “Integration and inclusion is always a two-way street,” Tulowitzki told us.

Friday, July 27

We started the day discussing an article called “Caring Leadership in Schools” and the massive human displacement affecting Germany and students like the ones we saw yesterday. The takeaway: Everyone can express caring leadership.

Then it was excursion time. We joined up with 16 students from INEMA — the International Education Management Master’s Program, a partnership of Ludwigsburg and Helwan University, which is south of Cairo.

In small groups, we explored nongovernmental and nonprofit organizations in the Ludwigsburg area. My group, consisting of students from the United States, Egypt, and Germany, took on the adventure of finding Landesjugendring Baden-Württemberg, the Federation of Youth Counseling. This organization bridges the gap between youth and politics by giving children opportunities to work with the government and express ideas with politicians.

Saturday, July 28

In the morning, we headed off to the Ludwigsburg Palace of the Ludwig royal family. The colors and textures of flowers filled the air and led us down courtyard paths to a stunning yellow palace.

Back at Ludwigsburg University after lunch, we were excited to meet Nina Bremm, a German expert on refugees. There is a difference between refugees and asylum seekers, she told us, but they have one thing in common: a desperate search for safety.

Because this was our last day of classes at Ludwigsburg, we thanked Tulowitzki for his hospitality and the planning that made this trip possible for us. He expressed our common hope to meet again soon.

Sunday, July 29

A day for reflecting on the relationships that we have made in Germany among our fellow students who have traveled. It was now time to begin digesting all of the material that we have learned and discussed over the past several days.

As I told my classmates during our last class, I have traveled around the globe, but I have never dived so deeply into one country. It’s important to see and hear the cultures that surround us because together we create something much larger than ourselves.

Monday, July 30

A day for some relaxed sightseeing to wrap up our trip. We’d seen castles and palaces throughout the week, but none like the castle of Heidelberg.

We trammed up a steep track to get to the top of a mountain overlooking the town. The walls of the enormous castle were crumbling but still remarkable. The labor and planning that built this castle seemed impossible from where we stood. It served as the perfect view to reflect on our trip in Germany as it seemed to look over the many miles we had traveled.

Our day ended with goodbyes, safe travels and, of course, see-yousoons.
Best in class
Women’s cross country and track standout Kylie Regan, ‘18, received one of the university’s highest honors, the Mace Award, which recognizes the most outstanding student in each graduating class. She bore the ceremonial mace as she led the procession at commencement.

During the 2017–18 academic year, Richmond’s 346 student-athletes posted the best average GPA in program history, 3.12. Six teams ranked among the NCAA’s top 10 percent in the most recent Academic Progress Rates.

Best in class, part 2
Five Spider athletes earned Player of the Year conference honors during the 2017–18 seasons. Two were all-around POYs: golfer Sophie DiPetrillo, who also won the Patriot League’s individual title, and tennis player Emily Dunbar, who was also named A-10 Rookie of the Year. Football’s Kyle Lauletta was CAA offensive POY and was selected by the New York Giants in the NFL draft. Women’s lacrosse players Kim Egizi and Julie Ball took home, respectively, the A-10’s offensive and defensive POY honors. Their coach, Allison Kwolek, was the conference’s Coach of the Year.

Upgrades
Athletes arriving for fall practices were greeted by gleaming new facilities.

A renovation of the football team’s locker room added 115 individual lockers for the players. Each one has a charging station and a ventilation system for helmets and footwear. The entire space is filled with Spider logos — 127 of them. As a release from athletics put it, “The entire football locker room bleeds Richmond pride.”

The locker room is part of the first phase of the new Blandford-Everett Student-Athlete Performance Center on the lower level of the Robins Center. It also includes an expansion of the strength and conditioning area, an enhanced sports medicine area, and other improvements.

Athletes abroad
In mid-May, four Spider student-athletes found themselves talking to a man in a prison cell off the southern coast of Africa.

The man was no longer a prisoner there, but he once had been. The facility was no longer a prison either, but now a museum. As they walked through, the man, now a tour guide, told them about the meager clothing, the miserable food, and other daily indignities of life there. Then they arrived at the cell of the prison’s most famous inmate: Nelson Mandela.

This trip was one outcome of the university’s commitment to ensuring that the packed schedules of its student-athletes don’t prevent them from taking advantage of the opportunities available to other students across campus, including study abroad.

Nearly 50 student-athletes studied abroad last year. The trip to South Africa and Dubai for these four students — Kevin Johnson, ’19 (football), Alex Parson, ’21 (women’s basketball), Marsha Robinson, ’19 (track), and Nick Sherod, ’20 (men’s basketball) — resulted from cooperation between athletics and the international education office, which also sent faculty to South Africa this summer.

On their two-week trip, the students saw luxury hotels and impoverished townships, dense urban centers and expansive desert landscapes — and Robben Island, where Mandela was imprisoned for decades, becoming an example to the world of both anti-racism and reconciliation. The visit turned their thoughts to America’s lingering difficulty with questions of race.

In a blog the students wrote while abroad, the four students described the trip as life-changing.

“Our athleticism was surely tested when eating the melting [ice cream] while maneuver[ing] the cobblestoned streets.”

MEGAN GIANFORTE, ’20, women’s lacrosse No. 32, in a blog on the team’s first afternoon in Prague during its summer European trip.
Ten years later, Mike London, R’83, still remembers it like it was yesterday.

“It’s not just one specific moment. There was a succession of moments that occurred that made the whole season special,” said the former Spider head football coach.

London, now head coach at Howard University, is recalling Richmond’s 2008 national championship season. In his debut season at the helm of his alma mater’s football program, London was replacing respected coach Dave Clawson, and despite lofty preseason expectations, the campaign started out rocky.

The Spiders began the 2008 season with a 4–3 mark, but their final set-back — a loss to rival James Madison University on an improbable last-second touchdown — set the stage for an unprecedented run of nine consecutive wins, culminating with a dominant 24–7 victory over the University of Montana in the NCAA Football Championship Series title game.

“The whole resiliency thing — the guys who were on the team and in the locker room — was a mindset instilled in us,” London said. “You think about the [championship] game itself, but more important to me is the memory of the journey that we had, and those games.”

With no room for error after the JMU loss, the Spiders strung together memorable victories — beating William & Mary to secure their playoff spot; avenging the devastating 2007 playoff loss to perennial power Appalachian State in the quarterfinals; and winning the semifinal in frigid weather against Northern Iowa. They made the season’s final result feel predestined.

“We kicked it into gear and came together — that’s what I remember most about that season,” said quarterback Eric Ward, ‘10, now coaching at his high school alma mater, Southwest DeKalb High School near Atlanta. “Midway through the season, we had a team meeting — no coaches, just us as players — and said we were going to do this. We knew we were good enough to make it happen.

“You don’t realize how special certain moments are when you’re in the moment. That season went so fast. When we won the championship, it was just elation. But you really don’t get time to sit back and marvel at what we overcame and what we were able to accomplish.”

Backup quarterback Will Healy, ’09 — who took the final snaps in the championship game, which was played in his hometown, Chattanooga, Tennessee — has similarly fond recollections.

“I just watched the game the other day on YouTube,” said Healy, who is now the head coach at Austin Peay State University. “Probably the greatest sports accomplishment I’ve ever had was being a part of that team. Our group was hungry. We loved being around one another. We loved playing for Mike London. We wanted to keep playing, and I think that goes a long way.

“That experience, especially my senior year, was really special, and I got to do it around some of the best people I’ve ever been around.”
A CONVERSATION WITH

BARRY GREENE

In September 1968, Barry Greene, R’72, moved into Freeman Hall and became the first black residential student at the University of Richmond. For four decades, he talked about his time on campus only with close friends, but in 2008, he started sharing it more widely. This summer, he sat down with President Crutcher on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his enrollment.

PRESIDENT RONALD A. CRUTCHER: I don’t know if you realize it: Your freshman year here at the University of Richmond was my senior year at Miami University [in Oxford, Ohio].
BARRY GREENE, R’72: Wow.
GREENE: Yes. You started your senior year when I first set foot on this campus in September, back when school started after Labor Day.
CRUTCHER: Are you from Richmond?
GREENE: Yes, I grew up here. Basically, Richmond has always been my home, the eastern part of the city in an area called Fulton. There were really prominent people, like Admiral [Samuel L.] Gravely [the U.S.’s first black Navy admiral]. My mom was a friend of his sister, and we all grew up in that neighborhood. It was one of those neighborhoods where you hear that it takes a village to raise a kid.
CRUTCHER: I understand. I grew up in a neighborhood similar to that.
GREENE: I remember a family friend who was with Virginia Union University coming by one Sunday and telling my mom and dad that he thought the ABC program, A Better Chance, would be a very good program for me. My parents thought it was a good idea. Nobody consulted me on this, you know what I mean? Back then, you did what your parents told you to do.
CRUTCHER: Yes.
GREENE: I went through all of this testing and was accepted in the program. They sent me off to Duke University for 12 weeks during the summer, and then I went off to the Peddie School in Hightstown, New Jersey, near Princeton. I was there for my junior and senior years.
CRUTCHER: It was one of your counselors or teachers at the Peddie School that interested you in coming back to the University of Richmond? How did that all come about?
GREENE: I didn’t even know the University of Richmond existed. Really. Back then, you got this college catalog that had a list of all the schools. I was going through the book and thinking, “Oh, I want to go home,” because I come from a real close family.
I had also thought about Georgetown University. Good Catholic boy that I am, I looked at at least one Catholic school, but then I saw this University of Richmond in there. I thought, “Wow. There’s a University of Richmond, and it’s actually in Richmond somewhere?” I never heard of the place. I went to the college counselor and he said, “Yeah. There’s one there.”
He was a super nice guy. Oliver McBride [R’70] from Martinsville, Virginia. Because he was a junior, I lived in the upperclassmen dorm, which at that time, the newest dorm on campus was Freeman Hall. As a matter of fact, I spent my whole four years on the third floor there at Freeman.

CRUTCHER: The entire four years?

GREENE: The entire four years.

CRUTCHER: Wow. What was it like in terms of your own interaction with other men, or women for that matter, outside of your roommate?

GREENE: My roommates’ friends would come by — I don’t know whether to see the black guy on campus or what — but they’d introduce themselves. My freshman year, I spent more time with his friends and the upperclassmen. I still see one of them now, Nelson Lankford [R’70]. He was a junior, and he lived in Freeman Hall. His brother was a freshman. His brother asked me if I would be his roommate my sophomore year, and so we were on the third floor of Freeman Hall again.

CRUTCHER: I’m assuming that having lived in Richmond in this time, you were accustomed to knowing where you needed to go and how to interact with folks. Were there any differences between the way you were treated on the campus and the way you were treated off the campus in the city?

GREENE: No, I don’t think so at all. The neighborhoods that I lived in, we had a lot of, I have to say, Jewish shopkeepers on the corners, and so we saw them on a regular basis. As a matter of fact, my junior year, I joined the Jewish fraternity here. The parents of a couple of the guys in the fraternity owned stores on those little corners in the neighborhood. Zeta Beta Tau. I used to tease them. “I was black and a southern Catholic, and I joined a Jewish fraternity.”

But they were the most receptive, especially when they saw me in the dining room eating alone. I guess they were paying attention when I’d come in. A lot of times I sat at a table and certain students would get up and move. They didn’t want to sit at the same table and eat with me. A lot of times [the fraternity members] would come over and invite me to join them at their table. They said, “Oh, you don’t have to sit alone. Why don’t you join us?” So I did get to know most of them, and they were very nice.

CRUTCHER: I have to ask you. What was that like to be in a place and then students get up and leave?

GREENE: The first time it happened, I have to be honest with you, I thought he got up because he had finished eating, and then I realized no, he moved to another table. I must admit it bothered me to think, “What’s wrong with me?” I’m not so sure I ever really got over that, and I think, for the most part, the people, the minorities working in the dining room and the maids and the janitors at that time, they weren’t all that very receptive of me being on campus. As they got to know me, they finally started talking to me and said, “First, we thought you were a foreigner.” When they found I was a black American, then they thought, “Well, why is this uppity guy in here causing problems?” I wasn’t causing problems. Then they finally warmed up. The truth of the matter is, when it was time to leave campus, most of them caught the bus and went to the eastern part of the city —

CRUTCHER: Where you lived —

GREENE: Where I lived. As they started talking, then they realized where I came from, and they became more receptive and opened up. They were a lot friendlier.

CRUTCHER: And probably some of them knew your people.

GREENE: Yes, they did. They rode the bus out there. A lot of the people in my neighborhood worked at the Country Club of Virginia. As a matter of fact, even one of my great-aunts did. They would be on the bus talking, and my aunt would say, “Oh, no. That’s my nephew.”

CRUTCHER: You were what — 18 at the time?


CRUTCHER: When I think about the experience I had [at
and what you had to go through here, my hat goes off to you. You’re a strong man.

GREENE: I never ever thought of it that way, Dr. Crutcher. I was raised to get an education. I thought, “Well, it’s going to be at the University of Richmond and whether they want me or not.” After I found out the situation, I thought, “If they’re going to teach the white kids sitting in the classroom with me, then they’re going to have to teach me, too. I’m not going to sit in the back of the classroom. I’m going to sit up front.”

You could tell from some of the looks that they were like — especially the first time I went into the classroom — “Who is this person?” I felt like, from the way they looked at me, they wanted to ask, “What are you doing here?”

CRUTCHER: “What are you doing here?” Yeah. I want to get into academics in a minute, but it makes me want to ask you a question. The way you articulated why you didn’t hesitate to go into this very challenging situation, [you said] “That’s exactly the way I was raised.”

At Miami, I remember walking through the residence hall. The thinking was, “I’m going to show you how smart I am.” I was determined.

GREENE: You saying that reminded me I had to go all the way to school in New Jersey — that’s where the first time the n-word was used in referring to me. I felt like, from the way they looked at me, they wanted to ask, “What are you doing here?”

CRUTCHER: What were the circumstances?

GREENE: We were passing on the campus. I was by myself, heading back to the dorm area and a group of them were going in the opposite direction. After I got past, one of them asked a question, “Do you have a cigar?” And the other one says, “No, but I sure do have me,” using the word to rhyme with it. I kept walking as if I didn’t hear anything they said. I had somebody spit at me. I was walking up the steps. Didn’t get on me, but it fell right in front of me. I’m sure it was said here on [this] campus, but nobody ever said it to my face.

I never shared any of this with my mom or my sisters because they had enough going on without having to worry about me. [I thought,] “I’ll deal with this.”

CRUTCHER: What was it that made you decide to pursue a major in biology?

GREENE: Probably, if I had to do it over again, I would not have majored in biology. I would have majored in history. In my family, everybody that went to college majored in science. It was always, “Oh, you’ve got to be a doctor. You’ve got to be a doctor. We’ve got a veterinarian in the family. We’ve got nurses. We’ve got technicians.” So, I was programmed thinking that’s what I had to do.

Then I thought, “You know, I have got to do this for me. So I need to take time off and think, ‘Is this really what I want to do?’” I felt like biology and chemistry [were] not coming easily. I don’t mind working hard, but it should be easier.

I was even accepted at pharmacy school. After I got in, I thought, “I don’t even want to do this.” I started working in broadcasting. When I interviewed there and said I was from the University of Richmond, the general manager didn’t believe any blacks went to the University of Richmond. So, before they would even offer me the job —

CRUTCHER: He had to verify.

GREENE: He had to verify. After I was working there for several years, a graduate from the University of Richmond worked there, Ukee Washington [R’80, now an evening co-anchor at CBS3 in Philadelphia]. He was there, and we would chat on occasion. He probably doesn’t remember me, but I remember him.

CRUTCHER: Was there any one professor that served as a mentor to you?

GREENE: Probably the one that I was closest to was not really a professor. It was the dean of Richmond College, Austin Grigg. Once a week I met with him. My best friend, Mike Keck [B’72], he’d say all the time, “Any time we saw the big dean walking across campus, we knew he was coming to visit you.” Then it turned out I got into the work-study program. And where did I work but in his office. And basically it wasn’t really work because he’d have me studying. He was a psychology professor, and when he went to teach his class, if I happened to be working that day, I used his office to study and do homework. His secretary, Amelia Fernandez, who I still hear from — ever since I graduated from here, she has never missed sending me a birthday card. I could go to my adviser for the biology, but Dean Grigg was the one that I went to. If I had an issue or needed to talk to somebody, he was the one.

CRUTCHER: Tell me a little bit more about your social life. You joined ZBT.

GREENE: I didn’t join ZBT until my junior year, and prior to that it really, truly was not a social life for me on the campus. I did not stay on campus. I’d go home every weekend. At that time, we had Saturday morning classes. When it ended, I left campus. Then, I’d come back on Sunday evening. My sister or usually my uncle or my dad or someone would bring me back to campus.

Periodically my first-year roommate would — because he had a vehicle — he would invite me to come along with a group of his friends. I would go to some of the basketball games with them. That was really eye-opening because the fight song for the school was “Dixie.” The mascot was a spider in a Confederate uniform. It took some getting used to. I was always nervous at those games. Even though there was not supposed to be drinking, you would hear somebody’s bottle slip and go crashing to the concrete floor. I went to a few. Not many. I was never that comfortable at those type of events.

CRUTCHER: I have one question I was going to ask you. It may seem odd, but I’m going to ask you anyway. Basically, did you enjoy your time here as an undergraduate student?

GREENE: You know, I probably enjoyed my junior and senior years more than I did the freshman and sophomore years.
For several years, student researchers have been searching yearbooks, Collegian articles, and other sources as part of the Race & Racism at the University of Richmond Project. They are searching for threads that can tell or lead to untold and little-known stories from the university’s history and prompt community discussion.

Project participants regularly post updates on social media at @URraceproject and on blog.richmond.edu/memory. Among this fall’s expected posts is audio from a student interview with Greene. The project’s main website is memory.richmond.edu.

CRUTCHER: After you joined the fraternity.

GREENE: After joining the fraternity. Well, and then the other thing was my best friend [Keck]. I was interacting more with him ... He was the president of Phi Delt, and a lot of times I was visiting with them. If there was some type of event or activity they were doing off campus, he would invite me to come along with him. I never will forget that was my first encounter with seeing Jesus Christ Superstar. He had gotten the tickets and invited me to go with him, so we rode with his fraternity brother. They would tease me a lot saying that I was the only guy they knew who was in two Greek fraternities. My fraternity brothers would say the same thing to me. They were pretty close together [on fraternity row].

On occasion, I did stay on campus on the weekends based on what was going on. Not many though, even my senior year. My fraternity brothers, a lot of times we’d go out to different places. As a matter of fact, my freshman year [with my roommate and his friends,] I got to ... Is it Mary Washington?

CRUTCHER: Yes, Mary Washington University.

GREENE: That was when they all decided to show how liberal the religion majors were. They all got in their cars and offered a ride to me. We went up there to see Dick Gregory speak. That was eye opening, too.

CRUTCHER: As you look back on your four years here, are there things that you have a better understanding of now than you did then, when you were younger?

GREENE: Not sure how to answer that one. I would say, yes. Especially when it comes to relating to people. My sisters, they tease me a lot, but I think I’ve gotten better at relating to my own race. Because they would say, “Well, you went off. You were in the all-white prep school, then you went to the all-white University of Richmond. You’re preppy.” I think I’ve gotten to be more tolerant.

The conversation turns to Greene’s attendance at an on-campus event the week before. At it, summer fellows presented their research for the Race and Racism Project. One subject of discussion was George Modlin, UR’s president from 1946 to 1971.

GREENE: Since [an attendee] made mention of Dr. Modlin, it’s probably important for me to share that I was really disappointed that Dr. Modlin retired before his name could get on my diploma.

My junior year, my father was murdered in the city. He was a truck driver for Richfood. He and a store owner were both killed in the store. And so, you get a call in the middle of the night: “Your dad’s been killed. You’re coming home.” After I finished my junior year, [Modlin] had Dean Grigg call me. Dean Grigg says, “Barry, we don’t exactly know what the situation is, but Dr. Modlin wants to make it perfectly clear to you that if you, for any reason, are not able to come back here for financial reasons, he wants you to know first because he wants you back on this campus. He does not want you to think that because of what’s happened, the tragedy in your family, that you’re unable to complete your education here, that by no means do you say, no, you’re not coming back because of finances.”

I thought that was remarkable. My reply was, “Dean Grigg, I’m planning to come back. Right now, I’d like to have a rain check. I don’t see where I’m going to have any financial issues, but I like to know that if I do that you and Dr. Modlin will be there for me.” He called me to make sure that I knew that Dr. Modlin was saying, “You’re coming back here. Don’t let finances interrupt you finishing your education here.” I think it’s important that he sent that message to me. He didn’t have to.
The conversation then turns to Greene’s decision in 2008 to begin talking publicly about his undergraduate experience.

GREENE: I heard from my friend Mike that Alison [Bartel Keller, now director of the Center for Student Involvement] wanted to invite me out to speak. It was back in 2008, Black History Month. Alison tricked me because she said I was going to be speaking to about 20 students from Fairfield Middle School, which is out in the neighborhood I live in.

I got my notes together and went to see her. I said, “Alison, this is what I’m going to cover. By the way, you said it’s going to be 20 students.”

She said, “Well, now it’s about 350. Everybody heard you were going to be the speaker, so the place is filled.”

And I said, “As long as there are no reporters.”

Well, the editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch was there. That Monday my phone is ringing off the hook. He had put a reporter on me. And I said, “No, no, no.”

I went to another friend’s house and told them what had happened. They all said, “Oh, you’ve got to do it.” I said, “No, I don’t have to do anything. Let me go talk to Rob [the friend’s son]. He’s the only one in this house that’s got any sense.”

Rob was 15 years old then. So I go down into the family room, and you know a 15-year-old, they’re playing on their video game. I said, “Rob, I need to talk to you.”

The whole time he’s playing his game, and I’m talking. Finally, he put his game on pause and his exact words were, “Barry, that’s messed up. I think it’s worthwhile for you to tell your story.” I called the reporter back and said, “You’ve got a 15-year-old to thank.”

Then I went to Mass that Sunday and was talking to the priest. Four students gathered around me and said, “We heard your speech at the University of Richmond. You were awesome. Thank you so much for sharing that.”

I thought, “Wow, they’re students, and they go to my church. They saw me, and they thought it was wonderful!”

CRUTCHER: What do you think alumni and students today can learn from your experience here?

GREENE: For me, it was you’re either going to be a loner or you’re going to be friends with the ones that want to be friends with you, and they’re going to accept you for who you are, not because of the color of your skin. I heard some students say they need their space. I guess my biggest fear is you’re going to be friends with the ones that want to be friends with you, and they’re going to accept you for who you are.

CRUTCHER: As an alum, what are your impressions of the University of Richmond today?

GREENE: I think the University of Richmond is a wonderful university. It’s come a long way. I think as far as diversification, it’s got a long way to go. I actually now feel proud that I graduated from the University of Richmond. Like I said, it wasn’t until 2008 that I actually came on this campus and actually started wearing the University of Richmond logo.

I must admit that the main reason I still stay and I don’t mind giving interviews now is because of Dr. [Tina] Cade [associate vice president for student development and director of the office of multicultural affairs]. I’ve told her that I wish there had been a Dr. Cade here when I was here. It probably would have made a big difference, but the fact is I came to get an education, and that was the goal — to leave here with one.

CRUTCHER: I remember very fondly your standing in line to introduce yourself to my wife and I when we were introduced to the community. That’s the first time I remember meeting you.

GREENE: Yes, I thought it was wonderful. I really thought it was nice that my university was moving forward more than a lot of the others around. I’ll always remember that day. I also remember Dr. Cade kicking me — it wasn’t physical, but I’m just saying — and telling me, “They need to know who you are.”

I said, “No, all these years, I’ve been very quiet with who I am, and it’s a little much for me to share the story.”

CRUTCHER: But you understand how important it is for our current students to hear your story.

GREENE: Yes, thanks to Dr. Cade, I do. That’s the reason why whenever she asks me, I never say no. When the students called me [for an oral history interview for the Race and Racism Project], I said, “Dr. Cade would not be happy if I said no. I’ll even go a step farther. Any question you ask, I will answer. Nothing’s off-bounds.”

I think the university for the most part was ready for a minority student to be on campus. Most of the students did not go out of their way to make life uncomfortable for me. But like I said, I was just one person.

CRUTCHER: Well, it’s clear to me that you had a lot of determination. You knew what you wanted to do, and you were here to get your education and to get through. Thank you so very much. I really appreciate this.

GREENE: Thank you for having me. I’m sure there were some things I probably forgot that I would have mentioned. I have not said anything that needs to be censored.

CRUTCHER: I love it, I love it.

GREENE: Well, you have to be honest. You know, it’s the truth, and it’s going to be the truth 50 years from now.

Editor’s note: Barry Greene, R’72, is now a vice president at Bank of America in Richmond. This conversation has been condensed and edited for clarity.
HANDLING WITH CARE

With the innovative Well-Being Center on the way, coupled with a holistic approach to serving the needs of students, Richmond is at the forefront of a well-being movement in higher education.

By Aggrey Sam | Illustrations by Zoë VanDijk

MICHELLE SHUMAN, ’16, FELT OVERWHELMED. Sure, she had a lot on her plate — working at the Weinstein Center for Recreation and Wellness, serving as the orientation chair for the WILL* program — but the fall semester of her sophomore year hadn’t even started, and in her words, “I was not meeting obligations, duties, and responsibilities as I should have been.”

Shuman sought out her mentor in WILL*, Malori Hollo-man, ’13, who had a directive to help get her back on track. “I was so grateful because she said, ‘This is something you need to integrate into your life. Here’s a specific recommendation for a person I know and trust,’” Shuman says.

That person was Kristen Day, a staff psychologist at Counseling and Psychological Services, or CAPS. Shuman wasn’t able to fit CAPS into her regular schedule during her first year, but finding a therapist she connected with emotionally did wonders to help her understand her issues. Settling back into a consistent fitness regimen also helped — a runner in high school, Shuman also made frequent use of the Weinstein Center when she wasn’t working — but regular appointments with Day became a crucial part of maintaining her well-being as a student.

“As far as things I have taken away from the university that I will carry with me for the rest of my life,” said Shuman, “my time at CAPS, getting back into an exercise routine through Recreation and Wellness, and the WILL* program through Westhampton College — those are the things that truly have shaped my direction and my current lifestyle.”

Shuman, who now works for Merrill Lynch, a position she landed thanks to a chance encounter with a Weinstein Center regular, was well-positioned to take advantage of the resources she needed to keep her head above water and eventually thrive. But what about students who don’t have the same access or aren’t comfortable visiting a therapist or seeking medical care when they need it? And how can the university help students avoid getting to the point where they need clinical services?

Richmond has long worked to alleviate issues tied to the well-being of students using an approach called “upstream intervention.” Now it’s strengthening them significantly. The university will soon build the Well-Being Center — an innovative facility that will operate as a one-stop shop and personalize a comprehensive
recognizing that there is a mental-health crisis and prevention initiatives — in the same physical space. These distinct units, in addition to University Recreation (previously Recreation and Wellness), now fall under one umbrella: Health and Well-Being.

The university’s longtime director of recreation and wellness, Tom Roberts, is now the associate vice president of Health and Well-being, charged with overseeing the integration of the units that will come together in the new Well-Being Center. He has been in constant communication with colleagues Peter LeViness, director of CAPS, and Dr. Lynne Deane, medical director of the Student Health Center, to plan the new building.

“It’s not just collaborating,” Roberts said. “Collaboration is doing a program together. But integration, you’re really joined at the hip. You’re working together. You’re sharing facilities. You’re sharing staff. You’re sharing records. You’re sharing resources.”

The process has already started. One tangible example is the URWell website, where each department is represented and students can access a suite of well-being resources. But even more significant is the use of the word “well-being” itself. “Wellness” is typically associated with physical health. “Well-being” is a broader term that includes the many ways people function in all facets of their lives.

A pair of Spider alumni deserve credit for making the Well-Being Center possible. The Walraths — university trustee Michael, ’97, and Michelle O’Donoghue, ’98 — made the lead gift for the facility through their Walrath Family Foundation. The couple’s connection to Roberts and to well-being in general goes back to their time as students.

Both worked for Campus Recreation — Roberts said Michelle, a health and sport science major as an undergrad, was in charge of the fitness program, and Michael was an intramural sports official. While the Walraths’ philanthropic interests vary, nutrition and healthy lifestyles are some of the causes they’re most devoted to. They have a film production company, Atlas Films, which has made documentaries about issues like the food industry (Fed Up) and the global water crisis (Tapped), and Michelle opened a health-conscious restaurant on Long Island, Organic Krush.

“Mike and I hope the center will enable UR to become a leader in the campus health and well-being movement,” Michelle Walrath said in April. “Nutrition, which affects our lives in so many ways, needs to be the focal point of our wellness initiative, and we need to think of wellness holistically. If we can do this effectively, we can graduate healthier and happier students.”

For those with knowledge of the Well-Being Center’s details, there’s a palpable sense of excitement. Yes, it will be a state-of-the-art facility — with features sure to be popular with students, faculty, and staff, including sleep pods, massage chairs, and a demonstration kitchen — but its comprehensive integration of services is what makes it unique.

On its upper floors, the building will house the Student Health Center, CAPS, and the office of the university’s sexual misconduct education and prevention coordinator, Britnie Hopkins. The first floor will house Health Promotion, an entry point that falls in line with the university’s strategy of “catching students upstream,” as Roberts puts it. Whether it’s a session on mindfulness involving the chaplaincy or resources emphasizing the importance of proper sleep and nutrition, the idea is to help students stave off more serious, preventable issues down the road.

As Heather Sadowski, director of health promotion, put it: “Having the resources, educational materials, and people that are creating a way to be your best self and have optimal well-being, I say that it’s all about the journey, and I think with Health Promotion, sometimes people are ready to make a positive change, and some people may need some assistance for reaching optimal well-being.”

Having each of the units in the same space enables “warm handoffs,” or referrals among practitioners. For example, if a student visits the Student Health Center because of a physical ailment but mentions he’s also dealing with anxiety, a doctor can simply walk him upstairs — as opposed to instructing him to walk across campus — for prompt treatment.

“It’s similar to one-stop shopping for students,” said
LeViness, the CAPS director, “You can go to the Well-Being Center, and there are multiple things you can get there. It’s not just when you’re ill. It could be preventative as well. So, it could be working on sleep, exercise, nutrition — things that can help prevent people from breaking down mentally and physically. But then of course, when people do need our help [the Well-Being Center offers] CAPS mental health services, student health for physical health needs. And it enables us to also do collaborative joint staff meetings or some kind of training in common where we can just walk down the hall to a classroom or a meeting room and converse over things.”

Added Deane, medical director of the Student Health Center, “We don’t work in cognitive silos when we approach providing care for our patients, so removing the physical silos separating us from our colleagues just makes sense and will greatly benefit students.”

Even the location of the Well-Being Center encourages holistic thinking. Its proximity to another future addition to campus, the Quelly Athletics Center basketball training facility, means it will be easily accessible to Spider student-athletes. It will also be connected to the Weinstein Center, meshing with the long-held wisdom, backed by modern research, that exercise is, indeed, medicine.

While the announcement of the facility was made in April, plans for it have been in the works for several years. Roberts, along with Deane and LeViness, scouted facilities on other campuses to ensure that Richmond’s is best equipped to meet the needs of students.

“We’re at the forefront,” Roberts said. “But it’s really hard to know what we want in this building because we’re so far ahead of everybody. It’s going to look different in two years when it opens, and three years after it opens, it’s going to look different again.

“One of the things we’re doing is being very careful, especially with that first level, where Health Promotion will be, to not have a lot of dedicated space so that we can adjust as the best practices change.”

To that end, the university is enlisting the entire campus community — staff like Roberts and his colleagues, faculty, and current students — to gain additional insight into how the Well-Being Center can best serve Spiders. During the feel-good process of developing such a potentially transformative building, at the top of mind for all constituents is a sobering statistic: In the last 15 years, the percentage of full-time, degree-seeking undergraduate and graduate students visiting CAPS has increased from 9.2 to 20.4.

“It’s not just a Richmond issue. Nationwide, student development professionals discuss what is often called “a mental-health crisis in higher education.”

“On every single campus, it’s a challenge to keep up with the demand for college mental health,” said LeViness, who is in charge of the Association of University and College Counseling Center Directors’ annual national survey.

Ally Charleston, ’20, didn’t hesitate to go to CAPS when she struggled with the adjustment to college life as a freshman. Diagnosed with bipolar II disorder, Charleston has become an advocate for CAPS on campus and writes a blog about her mental health. She is open about her diagnosis, including for this story.

“I don’t think that a lot of universities have the amount of resources and the care that Richmond puts into its students and their well-being,” she said. “Something that I’ve noticed over my couple of years at the university is the stigma surrounding mental health has really gone down. I think it’s incredible that I can talk about going to CAPS as if it’s not a big deal. I can recommend people to go to CAPS, and they’re really open and excited to be doing that.”

Charleston has worked with CAPS to share information about mental-health resources on campus and on an openmic event about mental health as part of her role as the chair of student affairs on the Westhampton College Government Association’s executive board. This academic year, she will intern with CAPS and participate in the JED Foundation Campus Program, a national mental-health initiative.

“Even though I’ve been doing so much better, the counseling, support, and the ways I’m involved at the university I think have been extremely beneficial,” Charleston said. “It’s been like a 180 from being so depressed my freshman year, and I think I’ve learned a lot. That’s how CAPS has helped me personally, and I’m always the first to advocate for them.”

It’s a positive development that more students feel comfortable seeking help for their emotional well-being. But in creating the Well-Being Center to address Spiders’ needs in a holistic fashion, one very important question remains: How will it be received by Richmond’s students?

“Being able to put all of these incredible resources in one building — exercise is such an important part of your mental health, and I don’t think people always realize that — I think it’s only going to encourage students,” said Charleston, who will graduate before the Well-Being Center will open. “Even though I won’t see it in my time at the university, I’m really excited to work on it with them, make it the best that we possibly can, and keep our mission in sight.”

Shuman is also optimistic about the new center’s potential.

“What the well-being initiative, the restructuring of departments, the physical change that they’re hoping to effect on campus, and the cultural change that they’re hoping will come with that physical change show is they’re very attuned to, ‘How can we be better,’ and I really admire that,” she said. “So, in that sense, they’re doing it right, where they see that things aren’t as good as they could be, and they’re working to find a way to make them better. I think the good thing is that they care, and that’s what this shows.”

Aggrey Sam is a senior writer/editor in University Communications.
A MATTER OF Ppriorities
ack in July, photographer Jen-
sen Sutta, ’99, got a call offer-
ing him an assignment at a
five-star resort in a vacation
city. He knew what lay ahead:
limo ride in from the airport,
caviar and lobster to eat, and a nice
check after a couple of hours of work.
He’d done it plenty of times before.

But this time there was a scheduling
conflict. On the day he got the call, he
was booking arrangements for another
recurring assignment, at an orphanage
in St. Rock, Haiti. He knew what lay
ahead there, too: bumpy roads, unpre-
dictable food, modest accommodations,
and no check.

Sutta had already learned to be
deliberate and disciplined about his
priorities. At Richmond, he was a biol-
ogy major who dabbled in photogra-
phy classes. That interest led him to
sign up for a road trip to Washington,
D.C., to see an exhibit during his final
semester. He never made it. On the
way there, the university van in which
he was riding flipped on the highway,
injuring eight students. Sutta fractured
his neck and back.

“I took some time off and re-evalu-
ated my future,” he said. “I decided if
that was how quickly life could change,
then I wanted to pursue something in a
job that I would enjoy.”

That’s why he turned down the five-
star resort. He wanted to be in Haiti.
The children needed his photos more.
Believe in Haiti — a nonprofit
that provides meals to children who
wouldn’t otherwise have them and
funds expenses so they can attend
school — uses Sutta’s photos to verify
the delivery of services and to rouse the
support of donors. Late this summer,
he made his sixth trip there.

“A nonprofit will say, ‘Listen, we can
tell people that money they give is going
towards a food program, but bringing
you there to document it is really what
reassures the donors that we’re doing
what we say we’re doing,’” Sutta said. “I
got to provide the proof that nonprofits
are doing what they say. I’m telling the
story of where the money goes.”

Sutta doesn’t need this work to build
his portfolio or line up future assign-
ments. He has already taken pictures of
everyone from Oprah Winfrey to Sir Ben
Kingsley, Serena and Venus Williams,
Emma Stone, Taylor Swift, and Usher
in places all over the world. Sarah Palin’s
book cover, an Elton John Oscar party,
the 2008 Democratic National Conven-
tion — he shot them, too.

“Celebrity stuff can help pay the
bills,” he said. “It’s fun to show on social
media. But it’s not as real, meaningful,
or fulfilling. The nonprofit work, that’s
real.”

By Stacey Dec, ’20, and Matthew Dewald
Photography by Jensen Sutta, ’99
Sutta posts images on Instagram (@jensensutta) and on jensensutta.com. His online portfolio includes more photos from Haiti, as well as other nonprofit, celebrity, and event photography.
FLY, SPIDER, FLY

Five decades after the first Super Bowl, Philadelphia finally lifted the Lombardi trophy. Eagle-eyed Joe Douglas, ’99, spotted the talent that the team brought together to win it all.

By Joan Tupponce

TOO TENSE TO BREATHE, Joe Douglas, ’99, split his focus between the football field and the game clock during the last few seconds of this February’s Super Bowl LII. The moment New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady’s last-gasp Hail Mary attempt hit the ground, Douglas looked up at the game clock — 00:00. No minutes left. No seconds left. Game over. Philadelphia Eagles 41, Patriots 33.

“I looked back, and no one had the ball in hand,” says Douglas (at left in photo), vice president of player personnel for the reigning Super Bowl champions. “I did that three times to make sure that we really did win this game.”

This wasn’t the first time the former Spider offensive tackle and 1998 all-conference honoree anxiously stood on the sidelines of a Super Bowl. Douglas, a suburban Richmond native, was also instrumental in the Baltimore Ravens winning the 2001 and 2013 championships.

“The Eagles were the No. 1 seed in the NFC, but no one viewed us that way,” he says. “No one gave the team the shot to win the championship.”

This is no exaggeration. Most pre-season prognosticators pegged the Eagles as a .500 or so team. Few had them even making the playoffs, let alone winning it all.

Leading underdog teams to the Super Bowl three times isn’t a lucky streak for Douglas, a man of few words and an uncanny sense for talent that translates to success on the field and an ability to analyze people and situations.

That comes in handy in his role with the Eagles, where his duties include evaluating players through the NFL and the college ranks, assembling the team’s roster, and signing players to contracts.

“Joe is a tremendous person, incredibly smart and hard-working,” says Howie Roseman, Eagles executive vice president of football operations. “He has great leadership ability and a great eye for talent. His strength is his ability to build a team and to articulate his vision through his scouts. For him it’s all about the people and being around good people. That’s a reflection of who he, his wife, and family are.”

When the former high school football standout started at Richmond, he never gave “much thought to life after football,” he says. “I thought I would play at Richmond and have a career in the NFL. I wasn’t thinking about the odds.”

His first-semester performance in the classroom suffered until then-Spider football head coach Jim Reid intervened.

“He was an old-school coach, very demanding,” Douglas says. “Discipline meant a lot to him. That changed my life at Richmond. He whipped me back into shape physically and academically. He was tough, but it was what I needed.”

Realizing he wasn’t going to play for the NFL, Douglas chose to pursue personnel scouting.

“I wanted to go somewhere and learn,” he says, explaining why he spent 15 years with the Ravens. “I wanted to stay in one place and get as much knowledge as I could.”

His passion for the game, coupled with his natural instincts, insight, and down-to-earth attitude, has put him on the short list of potential NFL general managers. But that’s not on his mind at the moment.

As someone who helped end the Eagles’ Super Bowl drought, Douglas understands how much the team means to the city of Philadelphia, where 73,000 fans packed into Lincoln Financial Field to celebrate when the team brought the Lombardi trophy home to Philadelphia.

“The intensity scale was through the roof,” he says. “To see that energy and that love and passion in the moment was an exciting feeling.”

The 2018 season this fall will be different because they are now the team to beat.

“We are going from the hunter to the hunted,” he says. “Each day and each week every team is loading up to beat us and say they are better than us. It’s going to require a different mindset and even more focus.”

Joan Tupponce is a freelance writer based in Richmond.
LEADERSHIP

For Tom Gutenberger, B’87, tailgating before Spider football games this season will be different than it has been in recent years. For one, he’ll trade his jacket and tie for a T-shirt, sweatshirt, or whatever else he wants. For the first time in years, he’ll be off the clock.

After 10 years as UR’s chief of fundraising and alumni outreach, Gutenberger is stepping down from his position of vice president for advancement, which he’s held since July 2008. “For me, it was the pinnacle of my career to come back and work at my alma mater,” he said. “I thought I’d be here a long time. In higher ed fundraising, 10 years is a really long time. I knew that after working at my alma mater, another higher ed institution wouldn’t have been as satisfying.”

He leaves for the top fundraising position at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. “I look at them like I looked at UR when I came: a sophisticated place that could do better fundraising-wise,” he said. “It has a great story but an opportunity to grow.”

Growth has been constant for UR’s development and alumni relations efforts under Gutenberger’s leadership. During his tenure, UR combined its career services and alumni relations offices and doubled alumni attendance at Reunion Weekend and regional events. On the fundraising side, UR exceeded a $150 million campaign goal, launched the Richmond Guarantee, which funds summer internship and research opportunities for all students, and funded the construction of the Queally Center for Admission and Career Services.

“Everything I did here, I tried to look at the long term and develop pride among alums,” he said. “When people are proud, they get involved and talk about the place. Then everything else falls into place.”

STAY CONNECTED

Save the date
Campus will host Homecoming Weekend Nov. 2–4. The centerpiece, as always, is the tailgate and football game, but festivities will be happening all weekend.

The Spiders have a five-game home winning streak against this year’s opponent, the Villanova Wildcats. Kickoff is 3 p.m. For the full schedule and registration information, go to alumni.richmond.edu/homecoming.

#TBT
Every Thursday, @urichmond throws it back on social media. These summer posts definitely make it #followworthy.

urichmond Do you really think we’d let the first day of summer pass without our annual declaration of the start of #jorts season? Stay cool out there, #Spiders.

urichmond Oh hey — didn’t see you there. Don’t mind us, we’re just pedaling through some old yearbook photos. #TBT Swipe for more.

urichmond Why do these #Spiders look like they’re about to drop the hottest mixtape of the 20th century? #TBT
Biz hall of famer

The Robins School of Business inducted Melanie Healey, B’83, into its Hall of Fame. She is the third inductee since its creation in 2016.

Healey has more than 30 years of global and operational experience in companies including Procter & Gamble, Johnson & Johnson, and S.C. Johnson in Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, and the United States. She is on the board of directors for Verizon, Target, Hilton, and PPG, and is a former trustee of the University of Richmond.

Posthumous champion

During the NFL’s strike-marred 1987 season, Spider punter and kicker Brendan Toibin, R’86, spent a brief period as a replacement player for the Washington Redskins. Records show that he played in one game, a 28-21 win over the St. Louis Cardinals. He missed two field goal attempts but went four for four on extra points.

The replacement players went 3-0 for Washington by the time the strike was settled. All of the wins came against division rivals, setting the team up for its playoff run and Super Bowl championship that season. Yet, when it came time for Super Bowl rings to be awarded, players like Toibin — derided by many back then as “scabs” — were snubbed.

No longer. This summer, the Washington organization contacted as many of the replacement players as it could locate and invited them to a ceremony at Redskins Park. Toibin wasn’t there to receive his ring. He passed away in 2013. His brother Brian accepted it on his behalf, and the Spiders gained a remarkable Super Bowl champion.

Thank you, Spiders

In the final 10 days of June, alumni and friends stepped up to celebrate the place that brings us together and support the students who are here today. During the Spider Challenge, an annual giving competition, 1,350 donors contributed more than $335,000 to support areas across the university.

When the fiscal year ended June 30, total gifts and support to the university topped $21.3 million — $400,000 of which came through gifts of $100 or less. These gifts not only support students here today but also help recruit the students of tomorrow. Alumni involvement with the university, including through giving, is an important measure that external organizations use when ranking Richmond relative to other schools or recommending Richmond to prospective students.

“Thank you, Spiders,” read a July email to donors from the office of annual giving. “Your gifts benefit our students and strengthen the entire Spider community.”

During the late-June Spider Challenge, “Support what means the most to you” was the call. Spider athletics drew the highest number of gifts, followed closely by the UR annual fund. The Robins School of Business and the School of Arts and Sciences finished neck and neck, with Robins claiming third place by a single gift.

GOLD alumni — higher-ed speak for “graduates of the last decade” — made nearly 20 percent of the gifts received during the challenge. Because Jepson alumni met a mini-goal during the challenge, they will be treated to brunch with Dean Sandra Peart during Homecoming.

Gifts came in from members of 23 Greek organizations, including all 16 currently on campus. Lambda Chi Alpha took top honors during the Spider Challenge. Pi Beta Phi and Delta Gamma placed second and third, respectively. Delta Delta Delta and Kappa Alpha Theta rounded out the top five.

Thank you, Spiders!
A TRANSLATOR OF CULTURE

David Sanford, R’73, turned his childhood growing up around the world into his life’s work. He’s just published his first book, Spilling the Beans: A Guide for Indians to Understand and Communicate Successfully with U.S. Americans.

MY FATHER
My parents were Midwestern farmers, and my father came back from World War II a hero. The foreign service was just being created then, and they were looking for people like him. He was plucked to be part of it. You go for three years. It was almost like he’d come home every three years and say, “Well, we’re going to Taipei.”

MY EARLY TRAVELS
I was very young in Taipei, and then he was stationed in Washington, D.C., and then we went to London. We came back for a year, and then we went to New Delhi, India.

MY INSIGHT
That period in New Delhi was pivotal for my perception and development. I went to an international school funded by the U.S. government. It also brought in embassy dependents. There were Kenyans, French, English, Egyptians. My French teacher was a Hindu woman, and my science teacher was a guy from Missouri. When I returned to the U.S., I was a duck out of water. I hadn’t watched TV in three years.

MY MAJOR
Studying psychology was an attempt to answer my primordial question about who I am. After graduating from Richmond, I defaulted to what I knew and joined the Peace Corps.

MY INSIGHT
Three weeks after graduating, I was on a plane to Iran. I was in a small village, totally immersed in Farsi. That’s when I really began to understand that it was more than psychology, that there’s something called cross-cultural communication — the mixture of psychology, sociology, anthropology. All of those together.

That led me to graduate school at the School for International Training in Vermont.

MY PHILOSOPHY
My first exposure to Buddhism was a survey course at Richmond called Non-Western Religions. I became curious, and then I discovered Tibetan Buddhism.

Buddhism is a philosophy of how to live one’s life. It’s how to show up and be present. I wasn’t looking for Buddhism. I was looking for something that helped me make sense of my world. I was interested in meditation.

MY JOB
In 1994, I started to consult on my own. Someone will approach me and say, “Some Brazilians are moving to the United States, and they need to understand how to work in this environment.”

Tonight, I’m a resource for a British couple in London. I’m going to Skype with them about what to expect when they move to Colorado.

MY BOOK
I’ve been writing this book for most of my career, and I didn’t know it. Initially, my target audience was Indians in India working with Americans, but as I dove into it, I realized it’s for Indians wherever they are.

MY ADVICE
Keep an open mind. That’s easy to say but not always easy to do. But be open to different being not wrong. Be curious and be willing not to judge. That’s extremely important.
Everyone wins

Some alumni visit their old classrooms when they return to campus. For a group of 11 who came back in July, the place to go was the court at the Robins Center.


The game was low-key, and the vibe in the building was decidedly friendly, though it was impossible not to enjoy the obvious competitiveness between Jones and Anthony as they guarded one another with amused but determined grins.

After two halves and a brief overtime, they took the microphone to thank everyone for coming and offered a wish. “Hopefully, we can do this every year for you guys,” Cline said.

That got one of the loudest rounds of applause.

SPIDER SPAWN? Brian McCormack, R’91, sent us an irresistible class note right on deadline. He had us hooked at “Spider Spawn Reunion.” We’ll publish it in full next issue, but here’s the gist.

Every year on Amelia Island, Florida, McCormack gets together with three of his Sigma Chi buddies, along with their spouses, seven Spiders total among them. Their 13 kids, ages 12 to 18, all come along.

“We go out on boat trips, have a kids’ ‘beach Olympics,’ hold barbecues, and generally spend every waking moment together for four days each July or August,” McCormack writes.

This year, the families celebrated their eighth Spider: Maeve McCormack, ’22, the oldest child of the four families. She started at Richmond this fall.

“Hopefully, more Spiders to come!” her dad writes.
We welcome your news. Send information to your class secretary or directly to the magazine at classnotes@richmond.edu. Or you may mail it to the magazine at Puryear Hall • 118 UR Drive • University of Richmond, VA 23173. Please include your class year and, if appropriate, maiden name. For your children, please include birth dates rather than ages. Photographs of alumni are welcome and encouraged. Please note that the magazine does not publish news of engagements or pregnancies. Information may take up to two issues to publish. Class notes do not appear on the magazine’s website.

The magazine uses undergraduate degree designations for graduates through 1992, and law, graduate, and honorary degree designations for all years.

B Robert School of Business
C School of Professional and Continuing Studies
G Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
GB Richard S. Reynolds Graduate School of Business
GC  Graduate School of Professional and Continuing Studies
H Honorary Degree
L School of Law
R Richmond College
W Westhampton College

University of Richmond
Magazine

Class notes are available only in the print edition. To submit your news and photos, contact your class secretary or email us at classnotes@richmond.edu.

IN MEMORIAM
Agatnemqui beatur as accum fugit- turem hiliqui occus, ut plabur miquisote aniquam non nihil ima vollo dolore velendi situatust, cuscim qui nam veruptatio et occus ipsam, nate accaborecea ventis que plan fuga.

IN MEMORIAM
Agatnemqui beatur as accum fugit- turem hiliqui occus, ut plabur miquisote aniquam non nihil ima vollo dolore velendi situatust, cuscim qui nam veruptatio et occus ipsam, nate accaborecea ventis que plan fuga.

IN MEMORIAM
Agatnemqui beatur as accum fugit- turem hiliqui occus, ut plabur miquisote aniquam non nihil ima vollo dolore velendi situatust, cuscim qui nam veruptatio et occus ipsam, nate accaborecea ventis que plan fuga.

IN MEMORIAM
Agatnemqui beatur as accum fugit- turem hiliqui occus, ut plabur miquisote aniquam non nihil ima vollo dolore velendi situatust, cuscim qui nam veruptatio et occus ipsam, nate accaborecea ventis que plan fuga.

IN MEMORIAM
Agatnemqui beatur as accum fugit- turem hiliqui occus, ut plabur miquisote aniquam non nihil ima vollo dolore velendi situatust, cuscim qui nam veruptatio et occus ipsam, nate accaborecea ventis que plan fuga.

IN MEMORIAM
Agatnemqui beatur as accum fugit- turem hiliqui occus, ut plabur miquisote aniquam non nihil ima vollo dolore velendi situatust, cuscim qui nam veruptatio et occus ipsam, nate accaborecea ventis que plan fuga.

IN MEMORIAM
Agatnemqui beaur as accum fugit- turem hiliqui occus, ut plabur miquisote aniquam non nihil ima vollo dolore velendi sitatust, cuscim qui nam veruptatio et occus ipsam, nate accaborecea ventis que plan fuga.

IN MEMORIAM
Ipissae volenis invererpe sim facaeeraeum venti incia nos voluptatur.

IN MEMORIAM
Ipissae volenis invererpe sim facaeeraeum venti incia nos voluptatur.

IN MEMORIAM
Ipissae volenis invererpe sim facaeeraeum venti incia nos voluptatur.

IN MEMORIAM
Ipissae volenis invererpe sim facaeeraeum venti incia nos voluptatur.

IN MEMORIAM
Ipissae volenis invererpe sim facaeeraeum venti incia nos voluptatur.

IN MEMORIAM
Ipissae volenis invererpe sim facaeeraeum venti incia nos voluptatur.

IN MEMORIAM
Ipissae volenis invererpe sim facaeeraeum venti incia nos voluptatur.

IN MEMORIAM
Ipissae volenis invererpe sim facaeeraeum venti incia nos voluptatur.
For information about photos, see:

1. Julie Perkinson Crews, W'62
2. Eric Johns, attd.'66
3. Tom Lukens, R'67
4. Dan Bartges, G'72
5. Whitney Walton DeCamp, '97
6. David Ryden, L'03
7. Jessica Kitchin Murphy, '05
Class notes are available only in the print edition. To submit your news and photos, contact your class secretary or email us at classnotes@richmond.edu. 
In the moment, it seemed like a good idea. Jon Lewis, R'73, inflamed by President Richard Nixon's "Cambodian Campaign" and the killing of Kent State University students by Ohio National Guardsmen, organized a protest on UR's campus on May 10, 1970.

Fresh from attending an anti-Vietnam War demonstration in Washington, D.C., where organizers urged participants to return to their institutions and establish their own campus-based movements, Lewis gathered "a handful" of his peers in the Freeman Hall parking lot. The group marched on the university's ROTC building and then made its way to President George Modlin's home, packing the front lawn.

"The whole incident was very spontaneous," said Lewis, who recounted the incident this summer for a Boatwright Library staff member gathering oral histories. "I can assure you that six hours before this happened, nobody was planning or thinking it."

As pictured in The Collegian, Lewis made quite the impression. But in his recollection, the reality was far more anticlimactic, thanks to Modlin's deft handling of the situation. Modlin came out to his front steps and asked Lewis to speak his piece. After instructing his fellow students to quiet down, Lewis shared his belief that the university should take a position on Vietnam. The president ended the respectful conversation, telling the first-year student that he wouldn't discuss it that evening, but they could resume the conversation in the morning.

When Lewis and Richard Newman, another of the march's leaders, reported to Modlin's office the next morning, the president took on the role of disciplinarian. Modlin, flanked by other administrators, "didn't mince words," Lewis said. He told the pair that the protest frightened his wife and disturbed "the tranquility of the home." Then he called Lewis' father, spoke with him a few moments, and handed the receiver to a mortified Lewis. After the call, Modlin and Lewis agreed that nothing similar would occur in the future, and Lewis left disappointed at being unable to engage in a deeper dialogue with Modlin about the war.

In retrospect, Lewis is "grateful for the way things turned out," he said. He was surprised to learn that Modlin made an administrative record of their interaction, now preserved by the Virginia Baptist Historical Society in a folder called "Dr. Modlin's Student Unrest." In it, Modlin called Lewis "a fine young man."

"I've grown to respect Dr. Modlin for the way he managed that," said Lewis, who went on to a four-decade career as an educator in Virginia. "Looking back as a principal and school superintendent, when you have responsibility for other people's children, it's a huge responsibility."

Acknowledging that his outspoken, anti-war bloc "were outliers" in the conservative culture of the university, Lewis now has a more nuanced view of his shirtless, bell-bottom-wearing youth.

"I think my heart was in the right place back then, but I don't know that I was really mature enough or sophisticated enough to be able to really come up with a plan to promote my view," he said. "One of the reasons I'm so fond of the University of Richmond is ... you're just under this kind of umbrella of support and concern."

Get off his lawn

As Vietnam War protests roiled college campuses, Jonathan Lewis, R'73, ensured that then-President George Modlin knew exactly where he stood on the conflict — by leading a protest on the front lawn of Modlin's home.

In the moment, it seemed like a good idea. Jon Lewis, R'73, inflamed by President Richard Nixon's "Cambodian Campaign" and the killing of Kent State University students by Ohio National Guardsmen, organized a protest on UR's campus on May 10, 1970.

Fresh from attending an anti-Vietnam War demonstration in Washington, D.C., where organizers urged participants to return to their institutions and establish their own campus-based movements, Lewis gathered "a handful" of his peers in the Freeman Hall parking lot. The group marched on the university's ROTC building and then made its way to President George Modlin's home, packing the front lawn.

"The whole incident was very spontaneous," said Lewis, who recounted the incident this summer for a Boatwright Library staff member gathering oral histories. "I can assure you that six hours before this happened, nobody was planning or thinking it."

As pictured in The Collegian, Lewis made quite the impression. But in his recollection, the reality was far more anticlimactic, thanks to Modlin's deft handling of the situation. Modlin came out to his front steps and asked Lewis to speak his piece. After instructing his fellow students to quiet down, Lewis shared his belief that the university should take a position on Vietnam. The president ended the respectful conversation, telling the first-year student that he wouldn't discuss it that evening, but they could resume the conversation in the morning.

When Lewis and Richard Newman, another of the march's leaders, reported to Modlin's office the next morning, the president took on the role of disciplinarian. Modlin, flanked by other administrators, "didn't mince words," Lewis said. He told the pair that the protest frightened his wife and disturbed "the tranquility of the home." Then he called Lewis' father, spoke with him a few moments, and handed the receiver to a mortified Lewis. After the call, Modlin and Lewis agreed that nothing similar would occur in the future, and Lewis left disappointed at being unable to engage in a deeper dialogue with Modlin about the war.

In retrospect, Lewis is "grateful for the way things turned out," he said. He was surprised to learn that Modlin made an administrative record of their interaction, now preserved by the Virginia Baptist Historical Society in a folder called "Dr. Modlin's Student Unrest." In it, Modlin called Lewis "a fine young man."

"I've grown to respect Dr. Modlin for the way he managed that," said Lewis, who went on to a four-decade career as an educator in Virginia. "Looking back as a principal and school superintendent, when you have responsibility for other people's children, it's a huge responsibility."

Acknowledging that his outspoken, anti-war bloc "were outliers" in the conservative culture of the university, Lewis now has a more nuanced view of his shirtless, bell-bottom-wearing youth.

"I think my heart was in the right place back then, but I don't know that I was really mature enough or sophisticated enough to be able to really come up with a plan to promote my view," he said. "One of the reasons I'm so fond of the University of Richmond is ... you're just under this kind of umbrella of support and concern."
Am que corruptur aut alicia sint optus? Quis am sanderae ferrebusis, ut a veritatem dolunqui dem ius qui vellapte actetur? Ur re ne voluptatessit, aut facetaratus se laborem in non pro vendaeuro ident volupta sintacturum aborem reromnum inamiosa il. Facerehenertu autemiquis ex evetel, ium et porum et fugit turquis diacimilli, voluptur molupli qui beaque dans et quodi blai quos sinto custurnum hilale as lamiis et, sitio. Buscandii sandii consent labo. Ia nimagnam hicimin ex expere expuerant.

58

Dendipsandt lauten. Nam quam, sam, officipid quo terum facculus ut vel il enuchicit et venimaginis expe doloreant, sam secto quidit, nosem fugiat eaque uti et officaerum ex esset molupla solore, sim fugit ex eutequet sed exhricitiam, autar ab imped uti miloqui sum, accordes dolintur earum ad ut animoqis ipsta quistinumnulla, aquis qui dis qui sit officiessati antispicii et velenoi per eis sitat.

IN MEMORIAM
Ipsam adion rem in pliquament dior omnolos sumque et que et veltici buscipla et liquam quaspe vanda praexa nide tenis earum ruichiocit et expesibus earias voluptus aut odis pa volant ad modis et atenuum patita quatsuis estagam terion sasax est tam, edipinagem magnum ex ea dolum et qui rati aut reped quo bluat? Ebit, qui volores abe nihilant reped maios, secum quas voltes, velest vollesset aliti sum ulpha net as eum linier as sam es esti berremo eis qntemnere rem num fugit officis rem delatia.

 OFFICIS endiciaea eis dis nisio et omnolos xinctibis mod moluplat.

57

Am que corruptur aut alicia sint optus? Quis am sanderae ferrebusis, ut a veritatem dolunqui dem ius qui vellapte actetur? Ur re ne voluptatessit, aut facetaratus se laborem in non pro vendaeuro ident volupta sintacturum aborem reromnum inamiosa il. Facerehenertu autemiquis ex evetel, ium et porum et fugit turquis diacimilli, voluptur molupli qui beaque dans et quodi blai quos sinto custurnum hilale as lamiis et, sitio. Buscandii sandii consent labo. Ia nimagnam hicimin ex expere expuerant.

56

Am que corruptur aut alicia sint optus? Quis am sanderae ferrebusis, ut a veritatem dolunqui dem ius qui vellapte actetur? Ur re ne voluptatessit, aut facetaratus se laborem in non pro vendaeuro ident volupta sintacturum aborem reromnum inamiosa il. Facerehenertu autemiquis ex evetel, ium et porum et fugit turquis diacimilli, voluptur molupli qui beaque dans et quodi blai quos sinto custurnum hilale as lamiis et, sitio. Buscandii sandii consent labo. Ia nimagnam hicimin ex expere expuerant.

IN MEMORIAM
Temos rust, conem harum cum re rentur remporerar lai undeliquam quasequose apratorio consequi vero offictis dolupitas ernatincium fugit quam, tem nonectam et, cup- tae. Doloremur inuponamus de dolot valor aut aliquam audipsum ut quasesequatem laborion pelique idelentibus soluptatir. Eum do re vendi adis et volopora est aliam et, sitio. Buscandii sandii consent labo. Ia nimagnam hicimin ex expere expuerant.
On deadline


During his undergraduate days, Mohammed Hadi, ’98, wrote for The Collegian and took some journalism classes. But as a political science major, becoming a journalist wasn’t in the offing. After graduating, he went to work for a New York hedge fund.

Hadi quickly realized that finance wasn’t his calling and switched gears — to reporting on it. Fifteen years into his journalism career, Hadi has been named the news director of The New York Times’ influential Business Day section. Looking back at his indecisive early 20s now brings a wry smile.

“I always had [journalism] in my head. The truth is, I didn’t have the guts to see it through then,” Hadi said. “For whatever reason, I just wasn’t focused enough. I just didn’t see that path when I was 21, but I did by the time I was 26.”

Hadi built his bona fides in the media industry steadily. After earning a master’s at Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs, he established himself as a respected international business journalist with his work as a reporter at the Dow Jones Newswires. He relocated to Hong Kong for a stretch, managing reporters all over the world for The Wall Street Journal and Bloomberg in Hong Kong. After returning to New York, he took the next step in his career progression, working as the executive editor of Business Insider prior to accepting his New York Times position.

“I’ve always looked at my career as, ‘I need to build the experience that I can then take to the next position and build upon what I’ve done,’” he said. “And now, I’m pulling all of that together into this job.”

At the Times, Hadi coordinates the newspaper’s business coverage online and in print, with an emphasis on being responsive to the needs of readers. It’s a newly created position, and his responsibilities vary daily, but a few months into his tenure, Hadi is enjoying the historic paper’s pace and reach.

“I may be working on a breaking story or helping on a story about Tesla one day and then the next day, it’s the trade war and President Trump and the economy, and the next day, it’s about the stock market,” he said. “That’s kept me on my toes. The impact that you feel when you’re in a place like the Times, it’s palpable. You know people are reading, and you know your readers are scrutinizing what you write, and they’re paying very close attention to the language you use. It’s a different level of intensity, which also makes it exhausting. But it’s exhilarating at the same time.”

The resources of the Times — its ability and willingness to send reporters to far-off locales in pursuit of stories, and importantly, the knowledge and talent of his colleagues — have also wowed Hadi.

“This is a newsroom where I feel like I can learn a lot from the people around me, people who have worked on Pulitzer Prize-winning projects,” he said. “Every day I get to interact with them, I learn something about my profession. If I can, I want to be in the newsroom for the rest of my career.”

Hadi came to Richmond from Dubai, which wasn’t well-known among his classmates when he arrived on campus for the fall semester in 1994.

“I had to do a lot of explaining about where I was from, where this little city was,” Hadi said. “Sports Illustrated had just run this photograph of a golf course that’s there, surrounded by desert. So, half the people only understood because of that, but at least I had a reference that I could talk about.”

Photograph by Earl Wilson/New York Times
MAGAZINE.RICHMOND.EDU

'T59

'60

University of Richmond Magazine

Class notes are available only in the print edition. To submit your news and photos, contact your class secretary or email us at classnotes@richmond.edu.

'T61

'Ipsam adion rem in pliquament dioni

omnolae sunquae et que et volcteri

buscipa et liquam quasi vende prae

nus iste deus earum nihiliciante et

expellit earias voluptat aut odis pa

volore ad modis ent atemolu pratia quaetis ut et toner sec-

totat es num, odignissunt magnem es ex dolum et que ratis

aut reped quo blatur? Ebi, qui volores abo nihilini reped maio

es, secumoque volest, vellet vetessit aliti sum ulpa net a

em litor sit as es esti beremero es quistiteren repe num fugit officiis rem lidetat.

Officis enducis ex dis nisto et omnolor simcibus mod molupat.

Officis demolupatet latur sunqui odis et quaequadae

intissi nest undiand idissi quasi volupta imnit adi to

exercer en dolfata voloreo viduntio. Riti dolorept as

prio atis quaetis sam et quair ariate opta dolorias ab id excerptis repetuerat is

et idus ritiis que cum et eaquae etiqui resput faccus

aut as aliti dolore copulaque ident, quae miliquo eium

quame solorep eratur, audame rem sitatem quo quan

uteci voluputat sinved iassum delibis et volore aut

explain dolupmat nullupibus a vid quiscip ieniden as

assinn enad. Et lant.

Officis enducis ex dis nisto et omnolor simcibus mod molupat.

Officis demolupatet latur sunqui odis et quaequadae

intissi nest undiand idissi quasi volupta imnit adi to

exercer en dolfata voloreo viduntio. Riti dolorept as

prio atis quaetis sam et quair ariate opta dolorias ab id excerptis repetuerat is

et idus ritiis que cum et eaquae etiqui resput faccus

aut as aliti dolore copulaque ident, quae miliquo eium

quame solorep eratur, audame rem sitatem quo quan

uteci voluputat sinved iassum delibis et volore aut

explain dolupmat nullupibus a vid quiscip ieniden as

assinn enad. Et lant.

Officis enducis ex dis nisto et omnolor simcibus mod molupat.

Officis demolupatet latur sunqui odis et quaequadae

intissi nest undiand idissi quasi volupta imnit adi to

exercer en dolfata voloreo viduntio. Riti dolorept as

prio atis quaetis sam et quair ariate opta dolorias ab id excerptis repetuerat is

et idus ritiis que cum et eaquae etiqui resput faccus

aut as aliti dolore copulaque ident, quae miliquo eium

quame solorep eratur, audame rem sitatem quo quan

uteci voluputat sinved iassum delibis et volore aut

explain dolupmat nullupibus a vid quiscip ieniden as

assinn enad. Et lant.

Officis enducis ex dis nisto et omnolor simcibus mod molupat.

Officis demolupatet latur sunqui odis et quaequadae

intissi nest undiand idissi quasi volupta imnit adi to

exercer en dolfata voloreo viduntio. Riti dolorept as

prio atis quaetis sam et quair ariate opta dolorias ab id excerptis repetuerat is

et idus ritiis que cum et eaquae etiqui resput faccus

aut as aliti dolore copulaque ident, quae miliquo eium

quame solorep eratur, audame rem sitatem quo quan

uteci voluputat sinved iassum delibis et volore aut

explain dolupmat nullupibus a vid quiscip ieniden as

assinn enad. Et lant.

Officis enducis ex dis nisto et omnolor simcibus mod molupat.
In the northern reaches of Jordan, approximately two kilometers from the Syrian border, Melissa Diamond, '15, feels right at home. A self-described “citizen of the world,” Diamond is in the process of launching a new program in Irbid, Jordan, through her organization, A Global Voice for Autism.

“I never exactly know where I’m going to be, but I really like it that way,” Diamond said. “At this moment, I’m based in Jordan. But give it a few months, and I could be in Turkey, Syria, back in the States, England — I really have no idea.”

A Global Voice for Autism provides support for and helps decrease the stigma of autism in refugee communities and conflict zones across the globe. Along with Irbid, the organization serves Mersin, Turkey; the Palestinian cities of Ramallah and Jenin; and the Minneapolis Somali community in Diamond’s home state, Minnesota. It draws on a variety of resources, such as parent and teacher cooperatives, community education, sibling support, and self-development by working closely with local communities and behavioral and trauma specialists.

Diamond started the nonprofit after traveling to Jerusalem with other Richmond students through the office of the chaplaincy. There, she met a mother and her 4-year-old daughter with autism. The daughter was usually locked away in their home because of the stigma of autism in their West Bank community. The mother asked Diamond if she could help find a scholarship to receive support in the United States. The exchange prompted Diamond to think about how the life of a close friend of hers with autism would be different if she lived in another part of the world.

“That was the catalyzing moment,” Diamond said. “I never set out to start an organization. It was never what I expected to do and sure, it’s been a lot of work, but it really just kind of fell into place. The highlight is to be able to provide support in so many ways to families who don’t have anywhere else to turn, and to see that through the relationships of the community that have formed around this organization.”

As founder and executive director, Diamond manages staffers who train parents and teachers to support children with autism, handles partnerships with governments in the conflict zones, raises funds, and evaluates new communities that request programming, among other obligations. She’s also an in-demand speaker on autism, including appearances at the United Nations for World Autism Awareness Day in 2014 and 2017.

“The most powerful part of those experiences has been to be able to share the stories of families and people who are dually marginalized, both as refugees and as people with autism and developmental disabilities, that so often go untold,” she said. “But you don’t have to be an expert to take action. And if you see a change that needs to be made, you can start by calling out that change and calling for people to come together around it, and the right people will come.”

Diamond says Richmond’s academic flexibility helped get A Global Voice for Autism off the ground. She switched majors (finally designing her own major in peace and conflict) and took off two semesters — the first to launch her organization’s inaugural program, the second to participate in an incubator accelerator program for social entrepreneurs.

“Being able to do those things during my Richmond experience equipped me to run the organization full time after graduation,” Diamond said.

And she still graduated on schedule.
Yes, this is a book.

That’s the definitive answer that Jay Do, ’20, a business major and art history minor, gave when asked whether this piece, called Orihon, is, in fact, a book.

“Absolutely,” he said. “This is a contemporary version of something traditional.”

Do was part of a spring semester class in which Jen Thomas, coordinator of Boatwright Library’s Book Arts Studio, asked students to consider the nature of books. This one “uses images to tell a story, similar to a graphic novel or some children’s books,” she said.

Orihon’s creator is the artist and futurist Tom Burtonwood, who came to visit the class. He printed its first iteration in 2013, using a computer program and photographs of sculptures to create the technical specs. He and the class printed this copy on a 3D printer in Boatwright.

“As the sampler was to hip-hop, so the 3D printer is to sculpture and designed objects,” he wrote. “Just as blogs disrupted publishing and smart phones changed communications, so 3D printing, scanning, and modeling will transform the world of objects and the services that surround them.”
Purpose soars within us.

Bright minds come to the University of Richmond with the expectation to exceed expectations. We arrive with a set of impressive traits: the ambition to challenge perceived limitations, the curiosity to chart the unexplored, and the determination to show the world all we can do.

Richmond’s nationally recognized programs and exemplary faculty help develop and cultivate these talents for the journey ahead. Whether exploring scientific frontiers in our labs, trading on the stock market, performing before sold-out audiences, or affecting social policies across the globe, the University equips us to leave our mark on the world. And we know that what we do here has an incredible impact everywhere.

See what’s within us and the impact we make at within.richmond.edu.